

Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 08:52:46 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Revisions to DE Admin. Code 3801 Shellfish Aquaculture

Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 8:30:46 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Christine Thompson

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources)

Ms.Theresa Newman

The cost of entry into the oyster farming business in the Rehoboth and Indian River Bays is a deterrent to the small-time entrepreneur who wishes to support the community and environment in raising an amazing product. I've spent the last 5 years researching the shellfish aquaculture industry & connected with U Del to offer assistance with their outreach high school science program. I had hoped to settle full time into my Bethany Beach home and secure a lease to raise oysters while educating students about this valuable commodity. The requirement of planting 100,000 oysters to maintain a lease coupled with the other expenses that one would incur to enter this industry have placed this dream out of reach. Please modify the aquaculture regulations to reduce the cost of entry into this honorable profession.

Kind Regards,

Christine Thompson
2 Toad Lane
Ringo NJ 08551

720 Fenwood Cir
Bethany Beach DE 19930